Frederici Hoffmanni Fred. *Fil. M. D. Exercitatio Medico Chymica de* Cinnabari Antimonii.

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THE Author of this Treatiſe deſigning to give an exact proceſs of the *Cinnabar* of *Antimony*, and examine its Conſtituent principles; to Solve all Phænomena that occur in its preparation; to explain the Mode of its operation, and deſcribe its Virtues: begins firſt with its two Ingredients *Antimony*, and *Sublimate*; and conſiders their principles in diſtinct Chapters; makes Experiment in what proportion *Salts*, and *Mercury* are Containd in *Sublimate*; gives you caution how to chooſe the *Sublimate*, and gives account what happened remarkable from diſtilling *Cinnabar* of *Antimony* with *Sublimate* adulterated with *Arſenick*.

Treating next of the Butter of *Antimony*, he examines its two Principles, the one *Saline* and fluid, the other *Firm* & dry, which he calls *Mercurius Vitæ*; & here again he makes tryall in what proportion each Ingredient is included in this Compoſition; he inſiſts much upon the Management of the fire, and Veſſels in this preparation; and ſhews a way how to prepare *Butter* of *Antimony* without fire.

And here he takes notice of that odd Phænomenon, why *Butter* of *Antimony* makes ſuch an effervеſcence with *Spirit* of *Niter* only, and with no other Corroſive *Menſtruum* beſides; which he *Solves* by ſuppoſing that the *Spirit* of *Niter*, by its mixing with the *Salts* in the *Sublimate*, becomes an *Aqua Regis*, which works upon the Included *Antimonial* particles, juſt as that Corroſive *Menſtruum* is obſerv'd to work upon the powder of *Antimony*.

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Coming next to ſpeak of *Cinnabar* of *Antimony*, he demonſtrates theſe 3 Principles to exiſt in it, *viz.* *Mercury*, the *Sulphur* of *Antimony*, and an *Acid Spirit* impregnated with a *Vitriolick Sulphur*; that *Mercury* does cheifly conſtitute this Compoſition, he proves in that it comes very near in weight to common *Precipitate*. He likewiſe makes Experiments of the proportionable encreaſe of each Ingredient of *Cinnabar* by fire; particularly of the encreaſe of *Mercury*, which he proves both from the Obſervation of others and his own, in converting *Tinn*, *Lead* almoſt all into *Mercury*.

Mercury revived from *Cinnabar* of *Antimony* he prefers much before the common, either to *Amalgamate Metals*, or in Medicine: the cauſe of which he imputes, to the *Mercury*'s being depurate from its *Metallick* terrene and heterogeneous particles by the *Sulphur* of *Antimony*. To Revive *Mercury* from *Cinnabar*, he finds filings of *Steel*, or *Copper* to be more effectual then Lixivial *Salts*; to prove which, he mentions an Experiment (which he deſigns to make a nice tryal of again) where mixing 6 Ounces of *Mercury* with 10 ounces of *Salt* of *Tartar*, he obtained no more then 4 Ounces of *Mercury*.

Coming next to ſpeak of the Preparation of *Cinnabar* of *Antimony*, according to others, and his own ways, he places much in ſubliming it often, and Cautions you as in poudering this, ſo to grind all other pouders exceeding fine; ſince groſſer pouders ſerve onely to abſorb acidity's in the *Primæ Viæ*, and cannot enter the Lacteals, thence to be received by the maſs of blood. He conſiders next how the Virtues of this *Cinnabar* may be exalted, whither by Solution, Fixation, or drawing a Tincture from it. Solution by Corroſive Menſtruums, ſuch as *Aqua Fortis*, *Aqua Regis*, *Spirit* of *Niter*, &c he condemns, as making it dangerous to be taken inwardly. Other Inſipid Æthereal univerſal Solvents,

ſuch as vain Chymiſts pretend to, he confeſses himſelf ignorant of. Only this he has obſerved in his practiſe, that by pouring upon *Cinnabar*, ſweet *Spirit* of *Vitriol*, though the Solution was only ſuperficial; yet this Liquor did far exceed *Cinnabar* in Virtues.

Amongſt the different ways of fixing *Cinnabar* by common *Salt*, *Oyl* of *Vitriol* or *Sulphur*, he gives a Method ſo to prepare *Cinnabar* with *Spirit* of *Niter* and *Oil* of *Vitriol*, that its *Mercury* will not tinge Gold white, and the *Cinnabar* thus prepar'd, thrown upon burning Coals, will all fly away. He ſuppoſes *Cnæffelius* preparation was ſuch wherewith he cured the Gout; and the Author himſelf tells us that he has with this *Cinnabar*, extract of the *Cortex*, *Leſſer Centory*, *Gentian*, and *Salt* of *Wormwood*, made up in *Bolus*, Cured ſome *Quartans* to admiration; yet he confeſſes 'tis not ſo fixt, but that its *Mercury* may eaſily be revived again. To draw a Tincture from *Cinnabar* he thinks not feaſible, ſince he can find no Menſtruum to diſſolve it, but ſhews divers ways of drawing a Tincture from the *Sulphur* of *Antimony* included in the *Cinnabar*.

Laſtly he obſerves that *Cinnabar* is the beſt corrector of *Opium*, and deſcribes a Preparation of his, where *Opium* is ſo corrected, which he prefers before the richeſt *Laudanum*

In explaining the manner of the operation of *Cinnabar*, he follows *Helmonts Philoſophy*; and aſſerts, that it does not work only by abſorbing *Acid* humors as ſome would have it; (ſince by the affuſion of an *Acid* on *Cinnabar*, no alteration is produced) but by opening all obſtructions, reſolving Tartareous humors, promoting their excretion; invigorating the *Spirits* and the naturall ferments of the body; and deſtroying thoſe that are noxious.

It may ſeem needleſs to mention all the diſeaſes, againſt which he aſſerts *Cinnabar* to be effectual; ſince he explains its Operations to be much like thoſe of a *Panaceæ*.

FINIS.